



(755)

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Wednesday, April 8, 2015
6:00 p.m.
City of Huntington Beach
Civic Center Council Chambers
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chairman Kreitz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Couey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Burkart; Michael Couey; Nicolina Cuzzacrea; Roger Forest; Albert Gasparian; Bridget Kaub; Jay Kreitz; J.D. Miles; Roy Miller; Jerry Moffat; Norm Westwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shay Reardon (excused); Dick Thiel (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: David Dominguez; Michelle Roesner;

PRESENTATIONS:

Community Services Recreation Supervisors Scott Getman and Krystie Franco presented the Youth Basketball Championship and Harry W. Montague Sportsmanship Awards.

Minutes:

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Kaub, seconded by Commissioner Couey to approve the Community Services Commission minutes from February 11, 2015.

Ayes: Burkart; Couey; Forest; Kaub; Kreitz; Miles; Miller; Moffatt; Westwell

Nos: None

Abstain: Cuzzacrea; Gasparian

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Resident Leslie Gilson spoke to the commission about Gibbs Park. Recently two Eagle Scouts constructed a landscape fence in the park. Over the past eight years, nine projects have been completed by different groups, including planting of 40 trees and building of an information kiosk. Migration is going well with 150 butterflies counted between October and December. Ms. Gilson reported that Gibbs Park is second only to Pismo Beach for butterfly migration.

DIRECTOR ITEMS: Dominguez welcomed Commissioner Nicolina Cuzzacrea and congratulated her on her nomination by Councilman O'Connell. Dominguez also informed Commission that letters would be sent to the school districts for their appointments in the next week.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Huntington Beach Central Park Permanent Parking lot - Previously Commission approved the concept of a permanent parking lot in Central Park, but not the layout as presented. Commission directed staff to return with a revised plan utilizing less land that covered less park space. Dominguez presented a conceptual plan being discussed by staff. The revised concepts would reduce the land use from 1.5 acres to .6 acres. Access would be gained through the new drive way being constructed at Talbert Ave. and Goldenwest St. A proper grade would be created to create a drive lane to the existing temporary parking lot, which would be converted into a paved lot.

Commissioner Forest asked what would happen to the north entrance that is currently being used. Dominguez stated it would be gated off and used for maintenance only. Forest stated by utilizing the north entrance a one-way flow could be used within the parking lot that would be very functional.

Commissioner Moffatt asked where buses would park after dropping off the students. Dominguez stated the lot will be large enough for buses to park. Moffatt asked if the City would be required to provide electric power stations in the lot. Dominguez stated that there is a possibility but would increase the cost of constructing the parking lot.

Commissioner Westwell stated he was concerned about the perception of co-mingling of projects if the parking lot were to happen now, being adjacent to the new Senior Center. Westwell did not approve of the bus turnaround provided in one of the drafts. Westwell believes the buses should remain up on Goldenwest Street, with a possible bus cut-out similar to what is provided for the OCTA buses. Westwell asked what account the funding would come from. Dominguez stated this would be funded through the Park Acquisition and Development Fund.

Commissioner Miller stated in previous presentations regarding the parking lot, citizens from the Friends of Shipley Nature Center were very concerned with providing a drop-off area for the elderly and handicap.

Commissioner Kaub stated she liked the new plan better than the previous plan and sees a need for parking closer to Shipley Nature Center for the elderly and children. Kaub feels the ingress/egress is very dangerous as it is now and moving it to a signaled intersection is much better. Kaub stated she is in favor of continuing to look at the plan presented.

Commissioner Burkart stated the most dangerous time in a field trip is when the buses load and off load students.

Commissioner Couey stated he walks the area frequently and believes the parking lot on Edwards is sufficient.

Responding to comments from Commissioners that park goers could use the new senior center lot, Commissioner Miles stated that the new Senior Center will not be over parked, as studies were done to determine the parking needs of the facility.

Chair Kreitz stated, the revised plan was an improvement but, does not believe the bus turnaround is needed. He also stated bus loading and off loading should not happen on Goldenwest Street and should be done within a parking lot.

Commissioner Westwell stated the conceptual plan was better than the previous plan. The current temporary lot seems to be adequate in size and just requires improvements to make it a proposed permanent lot.

Commissioner Kaub asked if it would possible to look into a right-turn pocket into the Shipley lot if the entrance remains the same. She has seen many close-call accidents at that location.

Commissioner Forest stated he believes a one-way flow lot would be most efficient.

Commissioner Cuzzacrea stated she agreed a one-way lot like the dog-beach lot would work well. Cuzzacrea stated Shipley is not busy and has limited hours and the current lot size should accommodate the centers needs.

Dominguez stated the current lot functions but there are issues with the road base surface and the existing entrance may become less visible with the new signal light at the top of the hill.

Commissioner Westwell asked if a traffic engineer has looked at the plans. Dominguez stated the plans were very preliminary, but as staff moves forward, traffic engineering would be involved in the process.

Commissioner Cuzzacrea asked what was the goal or purpose of looking into a parking lot for this area. Dominguez stated that a need for parking was identified in Central Park Master Plan and a temporary lot was constructed due to increased programs at Shipley Nature Center.

Commissioner Burkart likes the idea of staff coming up with four concepts.

Commissioner Kaub stated she didn't want to limit the design if traffic engineers come up with a better plan.

Commissioner Westwell stated another option would be for Shipley Nature Center to give up some of its land for a parking lot.

After additional discussion, Commission directed staff to come back with four concepts:

- 1) Keep the temporary lot in its current configuration but with asphalt paving and striping.
- 2) Re-surface the lot with asphalt and striping and provide a drive way connection to the signalized entrance at Talbert Ave and Goldenwest.
- 3) Re-surface the lot with asphalt and striping and provide a drive way connection to the signalized entrance at Talbert Ave and Goldenwest and add a bus turnaround and passenger drop off area from the lot towards the Shipley Nature Center Entrance.
- 4) Provide a concept for bus pocket parking and passenger drop-off on the Westside of Goldenwest Street.

Dominguez stated he appreciated the dialog and the direction by Commission.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

H1. NEW SENIOR CENTER- Dominguez informed Commission that construction at the New Senior Center site is progressing well and is scheduled for completion in mid-2016.

H2. BEACH PLAYGROUND- Dominguez informed Commission that staff is working on the entitlements for the beach playground at the location approved by Commission and City Council. A Coastal Development permit and approval by the Design Review Board will be required. Once approved, fund raising for the project will commence.

H3. SOUTH BEACH PARKING LOT RESURFACING- Public Works Department is repaving the beach parking lot between the foot bridge and Huntington Street will be ready for the summer season.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Commissioner Couey commented on an article in the HB Independent regarding the feeding of ducks in City parks. Residents are ignoring the signs stating not to feed the birds and no enforcement is happening. Dominguez stated the City is looking into changing City ordinances to better address the issue.

Commissioner Burkart asked how the water restrictions will affect the parks. Dominguez stated Public Works has initiated measures and would provide an update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Kaub stated she would like to have updates on what will happen to the old senior center. Kaub has been informed that the parking lot at Wardlow Park appears to be locked. Dominguez stated from his understanding one entrance would remain locked to prevent vehicles from cutting through the construction area while the second entrance would always remain open.

Commissioner Westwell thanked staff for the work done on the parking lot design and providing options.

Commissioner Gasparian thanked staff and commission for their flexibility in working on these projects together.

Commissioner Miller welcomed Commissioner Cuzzacrea to the Commission.

Chair Kreitz informed Commission that he has spoken with Zach Martinez, a resident who maintains a flag pole on the bluffs. Chair Kreitz would like Commission to look at ways to legally and permanently provide a flag pole and name the location "Patriot Point." Dominguez stated staff would address that request as an Information Item at a future date.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMISSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Submitted by: David C. Dominguez, Secretary, Community Services Commission

By: Michelle Roesner, Recording Secretary